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LB 24, 692

SENATOR SUTTLE: Thank you. I'd like to respond a little bit to Senator Jensen's statements. One of the things he said, that we have 80 percent immunization. I don't know how he knows that. The CDC takes a pole or takes a sample of who is immunized and who isn't immunized and that's how they come up with 80 percent. I don't...otherwise, I don't know. We might be better than that; we might be worse. I don't think that that is a good way to keep records. He also said that with the infrastructure money that was allocated in LB 692 that he hoped that counties would do something. Well, that's very good, I hope so too, but that doesn't mean that counties can talk to one another. That doesn't mean that if...if we all lived in one house, were born in that house and died in that house then that would make sense, but we aren't a society that stays in the same place for our entire lives. We move. We move constantly. I don't think that having each 93 counties do this is a good way to keep records or a good way to find out what the most cost-effective way there is to keep that information on hand. Explain to me how 93 different systems would be cost effective. It would be more than \$600,000, which brings me to \$600,000. Where did that number come from, except that it was a guesstimate by the Governor's Office based on what other states are doing? We never do anything like other states do. We always do things differently. Why should we depend on what other states are doing? We have a Unicameral, we have all kinds of different ways of doing things and, therefore, I don't know that that is a good guesstimate of how much it's going to cost us. He said, why don't we use ads that address who needs immunization? How's that going to help a parent who has lost immunization records because of fire, or the doctor moved, or they move, or they have six kids? And I only had two and had a hard time keeping track of all the immunizations. This, again, is about power--who has the power to spend this little piddling \$31,000? Thirty-one thousand dollars is there. Do we want the power for that? Do you want the Health and Human Services Committee to have oversight on what that brings? And I will be involved in the task force too as an advisory position. I would really appreciate it if we, as legislators, could show that we want the responsibility of trying to save the state money in the long...

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: One minute.